



## The United States Antarctic Program

Since the fifties Christchurch has been the gateway to the U.S. Antarctic Program (USAP), and since then, many, including Americans, have been studying the Antarctic and its interactions with the rest of the planet. These investigators and supporting personnel make up the USAP, which carries forward the nation's goals of supporting the [Antarctic Treaty](#), fostering cooperative research with other nations, protecting the Antarctic environment, and developing measures to ensure equitable and wise use of resources. The National Science Foundation (NSF), the U.S. Govt. agency that promotes the progress of science, through the USAP, manages U.S. scientific research in Antarctica, the southernmost continent. The program was established in 1959 and comprises research by scientists selected from universities and other research institutions and operations and support of the U.S. Government. NSF funds and manages the program. Approximately, 3,500 Americans are involved each year, as more than 800 scientists and their support teams conduct research in Antarctica's unique environment.



Scientific goals are: to understand the region and its ecosystems; to understand its effects on (and responses to) global processes such as climate; and to use Antarctica's unique features for scientific research that cannot be done as well elsewhere. Among the scientific disciplines encompassed by this broad mandate are astronomy, atmospheric sciences, biology, earth science, environmental science, geology, glaciology, marine biology, oceanography, and geophysics.

To achieve these goals, NSF operates 3 U.S. scientific stations year-round on the continent: McMurdo Station (on Ross Island), Amundsen-Scott Station (at the geographic south pole), and Palmer Station (on Anvers Island). In summer (the period of extensive sunlight and comparative warmth that lasts roughly October through February) additional camps are established for glaciologists, earth scientists, biologists, and others. Large, ski-equipped LC-130 airplanes, which only the United States has, provide air logistics. Air National Guard crews operate these planes. Helicopters, flown by a contractor, provide close support for many research teams. Tracked or wheeled vehicles provide transport over land and snow; small boats are used in coastal areas.

There are few places on earth where there has never been a war, where the environment is fully protected, and where scientific research has priority. A natural reserve, devoted to peace and science, this cold continent encompasses 5.4 million square miles, an area larger than the U.S. and Mexico. More than 89% is covered by an ice sheet that averages 7,090 ft thick. Precipitation in the interior averages only a few inches per year, making Antarctica one of the world's great deserts. Yet it holds 90% of the world's ice and - 70% of the world's fresh water.



The [Antarctic Treaty](#) provides the legal framework for the region beyond. The 12 nations listed in the preamble signed the Treaty on 1 December 1959 at Washington, D.C. It entered into force on 23 June 1961; the 12 signatories became the original 12 consultative nations.

To mark the Antarctic 2011-12 season opening, a special church service "South to Antarctica" led by Christchurch Dean Peter Beck, will be held Sunday, October 2 at Christ's College Chapel, Christchurch.

See also: [NSF - Polar Programs](#) / [McMurdo Station Webcam](#) / Other views of Antarctica, see the [South Pole Station Webcam](#) or [Palmer Station Webcam](#) / [Science & Education](#) / [The Antarctic Sun](#)

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## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Sustaining America's Global Leadership: U.S. Priorities at the United Nations** Address by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Esther Brimmer, at the U.S. Institute of Peace, September 7, 2011.

**China's Rise Isn't Our Demise** Op-ed by U.S. Vice President Biden in the *New York Times*, September 8, 2011.

**Clinton Sees World in a New Era: The Age of Participation** *IIP Digital*, September 23, 2011.

**Al-Qaeda Is Winning** by Daveed Gartenstein-Ross, in *The Atlantic*, September 8, 2011.

A decade after the attacks of September 11, 2001, national security opinion leaders believe that the threat of terrorism has been substantially reduced over the past 10 years, and that al-Qaeda is on its death bed. The author says his own research into the group has led him in a different direction: that this emerging consensus is obviously wrong. Al-Qaeda isn't anywhere near defeated – it may even be winning.

**Global Forecast 2011: International Global Forecast 2011: International Security in a Time of Uncertainty** CSIS, June 2011. Note: 96p.

This collection of essays represents CSIS's collective wisdom on the changing international security environment. They include writings from a national, economic, regional, and global perspective. The document is divided in four parts: (I) National Security in an Era of Contested Primacy; (II) Economic Security Three Years after the Financial Crisis; (III) Regional Security after the Arab Spring; (IV) Global Security after the Japanese Disaster".

**Implementing 9/11 Commission Recommendations: Progress Report 2011** U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2011. 69p.

In recognition of the 9/11 Commission Report and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11, DHS describes how it has addressed specific 9/11 Commission recommendations, making America stronger and more resilient. While challenges remain, the Department continues to focus on minimizing risks while maximizing the ability to respond and recover from attacks and disasters of all kinds – a challenge that DHS commits to everyday. **See also e-Spotlite – 9/11: Ten Years On**

**Fukushima's Reactor Cores Still Too Hot to Open** by Geoff Brumfiel in *Smithsonian*, September 7, 2011.

Six months after the disaster that caused three meltdowns, efforts to stabilize the Japanese nuclear power plants continue.

**The Poor Will Inherit the Earth** by Uri Dadush & William Shaw. *CEIP*, June 20, 2011. 2p.

The rise of developing countries and how they will reshape the global economic landscape. The effects of this seismic shift on the main avenues of globalization - trade, finance, migration, and the global commons, are also discussed.

## THE PACIFIC

**U.S. Foreign Policy in the Asia-Pacific Region** Kurt Campbell, New York Foreign Press Center, September 21, 2011.

**Pacific Island Leaders Look to Expand and Sustain Growth** by Merle David Kellerhals. *IIP*, September 12, 2011.

Leaders at the Pacific Islands Forum in Auckland, New Zealand, September 7–8, recognized the importance of focusing regional efforts on the economic sectors where they hold an advantage – tourism, fisheries and agriculture. During their annual forum, members also highlighted the importance of education, energy and infrastructure in creating an environment for sustainable economic development, the leaders said in a **Communiqué – conclusion of the conference**. See also: **Pacific Plan Progress Reports / Pacific Islands Forum – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary / Keynote Address – NZ Prime Minister**

**U.S. Engagement in the Pacific** Fact Sheet. U.S. Dept. of State, September 7, 2011.

The United States is a Pacific nation with deep, enduring, and historic ties to the countries of the Pacific region. As the region adapts to face the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the U.S. is committed to engaging closely with friends and partners in all areas – diplomatic, defense, and development – to meet those challenges. To underscore this, Deputy Secretary of State Tom Nides led the largest and highest-level U.S. delegation ever to participate in the Pacific Islands Forum (*PIF*) in Auckland, New Zealand from September 8–10. The size and scope of the delegation demonstrated U.S. commitment to the security and economic prosperity of the Pacific.

**Thomas R. Nides: U.S. Eager Partner in Region's Future** *NZ Herald*, September 6, 2011.

The U.S. Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, who attended the Pacific Islands Forum, gives his perspective on the most pressing issues facing the region.

**Chicago Talks Advance Trans-Pacific Trade Pact** *IIP Digital*, September 16, 2011.

**USTR Statement Regarding the Trans-Pacific Partnership Negotiations** Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), September 5, 2011.

**U.S. Seeks Enhanced Trade with Asia-Pacific** *IIP Digital*, September 13, 2011. See also: **U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk** – remarks in Chicago, September 9, 2011.

The **Wellington Declaration** U.S.-N.Z.Council, November 5, 2010.

## Middle East

**President Obama to the U.N. General Assembly: "Peace is Hard, But We Know That It is Possible"** President Obama at the U.N. September 21, 2011. "This has been a difficult decade. But today, we stand at the crossroads of history with the chance to move decisively in the direction of peace..." [Listen/Read](#)



### **Secretary Clinton's Remarks at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Women and the Economy Summit**

Westin Saint Francis, San Francisco, CA, September 16, 2011.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton chaired the first-ever Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) High-Level Policy Dialogue on Women and the Economy in San Francisco, California. Hosted by the United States, hundreds of private sector leaders and government officials gathered to discuss the inclusion of women as an economic growth strategy and to recommend concrete policies to increase women's economic participation in the region. [View Declaration / Fact Sheet](#)

### **Women Are the Key to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Economic Growth** Sept., 16, 2011.

Washington - Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton says increasing women's participation in the economy will be a critical source of growth for countries around the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Why Middle East Studies Missed the Arab Spring** by Gregory Game in *Foreign Affairs*, July/Aug.'11. 10p.

Middle East experts were as surprised as everyone else by the Arab revolts. Focused on explaining the stability of local autocracies in recent decades, they underestimated the hidden forces driving change. As they wipe the egg off their faces, they need to reconsider long-held assumptions about the Arab world.

**Background Briefing on Middle East Peace** *U.S. Dept of State*, September 23, 2011.

**Axis of Abuse: U.S. Human Rights Policy Toward Iran and Syria, Part 2** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs*, September 22, 2011. See [transcripts](#) scroll to date. **Part 1** July 27, 2011.

**The Palestinians: Background & U.S. Relations** *CRS*, August 30'11.

**Showdown on Palestinian Statehood** by Deborah Jerome. *CFR*, September 23, 2011.

**The Arab League** by Jonathan Masters. *CFR*, September 21, 2011.

**Statement at the Credentialing of Libya's Transitional National Council** by Susan E. Rice, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, September 16, 2011.

**Libya's Nervous Changing of the Guard** by Toni Johnson. *CFR*, Sept., 15, 2011.

**Avoiding Collision Course in Mideast** Interview with Ziad J. Asali, president, American Task Force on Palestine. *CFR*, September 16'11.

**U.S. Mideast Envoy Brings Plenty of Regional Expertise** *IIP Digital*, Sept., 15, 2011 (profile of David Hale).

**Political Transition in Yemen** *U.S. Dept of State*, September 15'11.

**Trade and Investment Engagement with the Middle East and North Africa** Address by Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Miriam Sapiro, September 15, 2011.

**Promoting Peace? Reexamining U.S. Aid to the Palestinian Authority, Part II** Hearing before the *U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs*, September 14, 2011. For [transcripts](#), and scroll down to date. **Part 1** July 12, 2011.

**Marching to a Meltdown?** by Ashley Tellis. *CEIP*, September 10, 2011.

**A New Chapter for U.S.-Pakistan Relations?** Analysis brief by Jayshree Bajoria, *CFR*, September 6, 2011.

**Anatomizing Non-State Threats to Pakistan's Nuclear Infrastructure: The Pakistani Neo-Taliban** Report by Charles P. Blair. *Federation of American Scientists*, June 2011. Note: 164p.

**Clinton Says Building New Silk Road is Critical for Afghanistan** *IIP Digital*, September 23, 2011.

**The U.S. Strategy in Afghanistan and Iraq** Hearing, the *U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services*, September 22, 2011.

**Afghan National Security Forces** Hearing before the *U.S. House Committee on Armed Services*, September 22, 2011.

**U.S. Defense Secretary Says Taliban Insurgents Being Turned Back** *IIP Digital*, September 22, 2011.

**Security Council Briefing on Iran and Resolution 1737** Remarks by Susan E. Rice, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, September 7, 2011.

**Treasury Targets Additional Syrian Government Officials for Sanctions** *U.S. Dept of the Treasury*, August 30, 2011.

**Egypt in Transition** *CRS*, August 23, 2011.

**Unrest in Syria and U.S. Sanctions Against the Asad Regime** *CRS*, August 9, 2011.

**More international relations links which may be of interest:**

**U.S. Foreign Policy Agenda: UNGA 2011** Briefing by Mike Hammer, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs (Acting), at the Foreign Press Center, U.S. Dept of State, in New York, September 26, 2011.

**Asia-Pacific U.S. Military Overview** Briefing by Admiral Robert Willard, Commander, U.S. Pacific Command, at the Foreign Press Center, U.S. Dept of State, September 27, 2011.

**U.S. - Australian Relations - September 2011** - *United States Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN)*.

**U.S., Australian Ties Promoting Asian Stability and Growth**

**U.S. – Australia Ministerial Consultations – Joint Communiqué** San Francisco *IIP Digital*, September 15, 2011.

**The Future of U.S. Special Operations Forces** Hearing, *subcomm. of U.S. House Com. on Armed Services*, September 22'11.

**Strengthening International Missile Defense Cooperation** Speech by U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Frank A. Rose at a conference in Copenhagen, September 5, 2011.

**Path to Emergency Response Standards** *White House* blog, August 30, 2011. See also **A National Strategy for CBRNE Standards** *National Science and Technology Council*, May 2011, released August 2011 (CBRNE – chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives).

**The Future of National Defense and the U.S. Military Ten Years after 9/11: Perspectives from Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff** Hearing before the *U.S. House Committee on Armed Services*, September 8, 2011.

**Nuclear Nonproliferation: U.S. Agencies Have Limited Ability to Account for, Monitor, and Evaluate the Security of U.S. Nuclear Material Overseas** *GAO*, September 2011. 68p.

**The Future of National Defense and the U.S. Military Ten Years after 9/11: Perspectives from Outside Experts** Hearing before the *U.S. House Committee on Armed Services*, September 13, 2011.

**U.S. Priorities for the NPT and Moving Forward** U.S. Deputy Asst. Secretary of State Marcie B. Ries, September 1, 2011.

**The Case for the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty: Key Points** Fact sheet, *U.S. Dept of State*, September 1, 2011.

**A Unified Security Budget for the United States** Remarks by Thomas Nides, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, at the Center for American Progress, August 31, 2011.

**World Community Welcomes Libya's Transnational Council** *IIP Digital*, September 2, 2011.

**NGOs & Nonstate Armed Actors: Increasing Compliance with International Norms** by Claudia Hofmann. *USIP*, July'11.

**Terrorism & Homeland Security**

**Clinton Launches New Counterterrorism Partnership** *IIP Digital*, September 22, 2011. See also: **Secretary Clinton's remarks at the launch of the Global Counterterrorism Forum**

**Countering Terrorist Financing: Progress and Priorities** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary*, September 21, 2011.

**Ten Years after 9/11: Are We Safer?** Hearing, *U.S. Senate Comm. Homeland Security and Govt. Affairs*, September 13'11.

**Agro-Defense: Responding to Threats against America's Agriculture and Food System** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs*, September 13, 2011. See **GAO Report** August'11.

## United Nations

**U.N. System Development Assistance: Issues for Congress** CRS, July 28, 2011. 42p.

**A Misguided Assault: Why the United Nations Matters** Address by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Esther Brimmer at the Center for American Progress, September 15, 2011.

**Remarks on the United Nations General Assembly** Remarks by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Esther Brimmer, September 15, 2011.

**How Engagement at the United Nations Benefits the United States** Remarks by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Esther Brimmer, at the University of Nevada, September 1, 2011.

## Religious Freedom

**Remarks at the Release of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Report on International Religious Freedom** Remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. *U.S. Dept of State*, September 13, 2011. [View](#) / [See also](#)

**Promoting Respect and Tolerance for International Religious Freedom** Remarks by Suzan Johnson Cook, Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, *U.S. Dept of State*, September 13, 2011. [View](#)

## Corruption

**APEC ABAC-ACT Dialogue and Partnership on Combating Corruption and Bribery: Ensuring Greater Integrity in APEC Economies, Markets and Supply Chains** Remarks by David M. Luna, Director for Anticrime Programs, U.S. Dept of State, in San Francisco, September 13, 2011.

**Remarks by ACT Chair at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the APEC Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Working Group** Remarks by David M. Luna, Director for Anticrime Programs, U.S. Dept of State, in San Francisco, September 12, 2011.

## Horn of Africa:

**Somalia's Famine-Affected Area Expands** *IIP Digital*, September 6, 2011.

**U.S. Response to Humanitarian Crisis in the Horn of Africa** Fact sheet, *U.S. Dept of State*, September 8, 2011.

**Adoption of Roadmap for Ending the Transition in Somalia** Press statement, *U.S. Dept of State*, September 8, 2011.

**USAID's Long-Term Strategy for Addressing East African Emergencies** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs*, September 8, 2011. See [transcripts](#) and scroll to date. [Listen](#)

## POLITICS / GOVERNMENT

**The Contemporary Presidency: The Return of the Honeymoon: Television News Coverage of New Presidents, 1981-2009** by Stephen Farnsworth & S. Robert Lichter in *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, July 4, 2011.

Content analysis of network evening news coverage during the first year of the Barack Obama presidency revealed coverage that was far more positive in tone than comparable news reports from the first years of the Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush presidencies. Both domestic and international policy evaluations of the Obama presidency were more positive in tone than those of the last three presidents to take office during partisan transfers of power.

**Obama Helps Launch Open Government Partnership** *IIP Digital*, September 20, 2011.

President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton took part in the formal launch of the Open Government Partnership in New York, which brings together heads of state and senior officials from 46 nations committed to increasing openness and accountability in their own governments and around the world.

**Opening Remarks – President Obama** / [Fact Sheet](#) / [Blog Post](#) / [View](#)

***Some government/politics resources which may be of interest:***

**Documenting How a Bill Becomes Law** *U.S. Dept of Justice blog*, August 19, 2011.

**United States Code** – searchable beta version.

**President Obama signs the "America Invents Act"** *The White House*, September 16, 2011 (patent reform legislation).



## ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

**Climate Action Goes Local** *e-Journal USA*. IIP, U.S. Dept of State, August 2011.

This e-Journal examines what it means to think globally about climate change - and to act locally. *Climate Action Goes Local* shows how communities and non-profit groups worldwide are initiating programs that counter climate change, and why leadership from local officials and buy-in from local populations and businesses are necessary for such programs to be effective. An excerpt from *Local Action: The New Paradigm in Climate Change Policy* by Tommy Linstroth and Ryan Bell outlines advantages local governments have over higher-level governments in developing, monitoring and adapting climate change programs to serve their constituencies.

**Built to Last: The 9/11 Attacks Have Ushered in a New Generation of Safer, Greener Skyscrapers** by Roddy Scheer in *E: Environment Magazine*, August 26, 2011.

The 9/11 attacks taught us a hard-learned lesson: how to mitigate the ill effects of other disasters in the future. Architects, builders and developers are working on a new generation of skyscrapers designed to withstand forces similar to those leveled by the two planes that struck the World Trade Center towers.

### **Some environmental resources which may be of interest:**

**High-Level Meeting on Nuclear Safety** Remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, in New York, September 22, 2011. See also "**Nations Depend on Each Other for Nuclear Safety**" Clinton Says, *IIP Digital*, September 23, 2011.

**U.S. Wins Forest Policy Award** Media note, U.S. Dept of State, September 23, 2011 (*World Future Council*).

**Statement from President Obama on the Six Year Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina** August 29, 2011.

**Carbon Taxes: A Review of Experience and Policy Design Considerations** by Jenny Sumner et al. *National Renewable Energy Laboratory*, U.S. Dept of Energy, December 2009. 38p.

**Seattle's Climate Strategy Pays Off** by Jonathan Hiskes. *IIP Digital*, August 25, 2011.

**Global Natural Gas Potential** Backgrounder by Toni Johnson. *CFR*, August 24, 2011.

**Nuclear Cooperation with Other Countries: A Primer** CRS, August 11, 2011.

**Nuclear Energy Cooperation with Foreign Countries: Issues for Congress** CRS, August 10, 2011.

**Smart Grid** Hearing, *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Science, Space and Technology*, September 8, 2011.

**Life From a Freegan Perspective** by Henrik Person in *E-Environment Magazine*, July 11, 2011.

**U.S. Exports of Petroleum Products Increase as Markets Become More Globally Integrated** *Energy Info. Admin.* U.S. Dept of Energy, September 7, 2011.

**United States Leads World in Coal Reserves** *Energy Info. Admin.* U.S. Dept of Energy, September 2, 2011.

**Growth Slows in U.S. Ethanol Production and Consumption** *Energy Info. Admin.*, U.S. Dept of Energy, September 14'11.

**Nigeria, the Largest Crude Oil Producer in Africa, is a Major Source of U.S. Imports** *Energy Info. Admin.*, U.S. Dept of Energy, September 13, 2011.

**Climate Engineering: Technical Status, Future Directions, and Potential Responses** *Technology Assessment*, GAO, July 2011. Note: 135p. **Summary**

**U.S. Renewable Electricity Generation: Resources and Challenges** CRS, August 5, 2011. 52p.

**Annual Energy Outlook 2011** *Energy Information Administration*, 2011.

### **Fisheries:**

**U.S., EU Officials on Pirates' Pillaging of the Oceans' Bounty** *IIP Digital*, September 8, 2011.

Pirate fishing around the world is costing fishermen their jobs and income, and is inflicting serious harm on the ocean environment.

## TRADE/ECONOMY

### Jobs

"The purpose of the *American Jobs Act* is simple: to put more people back to work and more money in the pockets of those who are working."

*President Barack Obama, September 8, 2011.*

**Address by President Obama to a Joint Session of Congress** *The White House*, September 8, 2011. **Fact Sheet & Overview / Fact Sheet - American Jobs Act / View - Listen**

**Message from the President to Congress, a Sectional Analysis and the Text of the American Jobs Act of 2011** *the White House*, September 12, 2011.

**Presidential Memorandum: American Jobs Act of 2011** *The White House*, September 12, 2011.

**Made in America, Again: Why Manufacturing Will Return to the U.S.** *Boston Consulting Group*, August 2011. 19p.

### Trade

**USTR Ron Kirk Applauds Senate Passage of Key Trade Programs** News release, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), September 22, 2011.

**Chicago Talks Advance Trans-Pacific Trade Pact** *IIP Digital*, September 16, 2011.

**G7 Pledges to Support Global Economic Recovery** *IIP Digital*, September 12, 2011.

**U.S. Deepens Economic Ties with Asia through Trade, Jobs.** *IIP Digital*, September 13, 2011. - Ref. is September 13 speech in Los Angeles by **U.S. Under Secretary of State Robert D. Hormats**

**The KORUS FTA is a Strategic Imperative** by Gordon Flkæ & Troy Stangarone *Center for Strategic & International Studies*, August 11, 2011.

Now that a deal has been reached on the U.S. debt ceiling, the authors believe it is critical that Congress move quickly to pass the three pending trade agreements, which include the Korea-US (KORUS) Free Trade Agreement, as they are directly linked to U.S. strategic interests.

**Agriculture in Pending U.S Free Trade Agreements with Columbia, Panama, and South Korea** by Remy Jurenas. *CRS*, July 15, 2011. 28p

The 112th Congress is expected to consider separate free trade agreements (FTAs) signed by the Bush Administration with South Korea, Panama, and Colombia. If and when submitted, these trade agreements will be debated under trade promotion authority, or fast-track rules, designed to expedite congressional consideration. Liberalizing trade in agricultural products, particularly the pace of expanding market access for the more sensitive agricultural commodities, was one of the more challenging areas that trade negotiators faced in concluding each of these FTAs. In each instance, issues dealing with food safety and animal/plant health matters (technically not part of the FTA negotiating agenda) were not resolved until later.

### Economy

**The Role of the U.S. Federal Reserve** Royce Wolverson & Christopher Alessi, *CFR*, September 13, 2011.

Following a series of financial panics and banking runs, Congress passed--and President Woodrow Wilson signed into law--the 1913 Federal Reserve Act. The law created the Federal Reserve System, comprising twelve public-private regional federal reserve banks. The seat of power of the central bank is situated in the Washington, DC-based seven member **Board of Governors**, currently headed by Chairman Ben Bernanke. Today, the Fed is tasked with managing U.S. monetary policy, regulating bank holding companies and other member banks, and monitoring systemic risk.

**The Impact of the World Bank and Multi-Lateral Development Banks on National Security** Hearing before a subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services, September 21, 2011.

**The Economic Implications of the Long-Term Federal Budget Outlook** *CRS*, August 16, 2011.

**The Congressional Budget Process: A Brief Overview** *CRS*, August 22, 2011.

**Communication, Credibility, and Implementation: Some Thoughts on Current, Past and Future Monetary Policy** Speech by Narayana Kocherlakota, president, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, August 30, 2011.

**Cybersecurity: Threats to the Financial Sector** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services*, September 14, 2011.

**Economic Mobility Project** – a project of the Pew Center on the States.

**The Economy Turns – Again** Presentation by Jason Henderson, *Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City*, August 18, 2011. 20p.

**Targeting in Advertising Markets: Implications for Offline Versus Online Media** by Dirk Bergemann & Alessandro Bonatti in the *RAND Journal of Economics*, Fall, 2011. 27p.

**Chart: U.S. Regulatory Authority over Payment, Clearing and Settlement Systems** *Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago*, July 26, 2011.

**What the World Must Do to Boost Growth** Op-ed by U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Tim Geithner in the *Financial Times*, September 8, 2011.

**The U.S. Economic Outlook** Speech by Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, *U.S. Federal Reserve*, Sept., 2011.

**Banking on U.S. Infrastructure Revival** Analysis brief by Christopher Alessi. *CFR*, September 8, 2011.

**Corporate Social Responsibility** Fact sheet, *U.S. Dept of State*, September 1, 2011.

**Beige Book** *Federal Reserve Board*, September 7, 2011 (regional economic conditions in USA).

**Greece's Debt Crisis: Overview, Policy Responses, and Implications** *CRS*, August 18, 2011.

**Return of the Eurozone Crisis** Analysis brief by Christopher Alessi. *CFR*, September 7, 2011.

**U.S. Exports of Advanced Technology Products Declined Less Than Other U.S. Exports in 2009** *National Science Foundation (NSF) InfoBrief*, September 2011. 8p.

**Estimated Impact of Auto. Budget Enforc. Procedures Specified in Budget Control Act** *CBO*, September 12, 2011. 10p.

**Taxation**

**Tax Incentives for Research, Experimentation, and Innovation** Staff report of the *Joint Committee on Taxation*, U.S. Congress, September 16, 2011. 24p.

**Examining Whether There is a Role for Tax Reform in Comprehensive Deficit Reduction and U.S. Fiscal Policy** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance*, September 13, 2011.

**Tax Reform Options: Marginal Rates on High-Income Taxpayers, Capital Gains and Dividends** Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on Finance*, September 14, 2011.

**Present Law and Background Relating to the Tax Treatment of Retirement Savings** Report by the staff of the *Joint Committee on Taxation*, U.S. Congress, September 13, 2011. 58p.

**Tax Reform Options: International Issues** Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on Finance*, September 8, 2011.

**Present Law and Issues in U.S. Taxation of Cross-Border Income** by the staff of the *Joint Economic Committee*, U.S. Congress, September 6, 2011. Note: 113p.

**Federal Tax Treatment of Individuals** by the staff of the *Joint Economic Comm.*, U.S. Congress, September 12, 2011. 41p.

**Collecting E-Commerce Taxes: An Interactive Map** *National Conference of State Legislatures*, 2011.

**Economic and Revenue Update** *Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council*, September 12, 2011. 10p.

**Industrial Organization and Systemic Risk: An Agenda for Further Research** Speech by Daniel K. Tarullo, a governor of the U.S. Federal Reserve, September 15, 2011. See also **opening remarks at the conference, by U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke: Opening Remarks**

**Emerging Issues in Insurance Regulation** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs*, September 14, 2011.

**An Emerging Global Market** by Saskia Sassen in the *Harvard International Review*, Summer 2011, 6p.



## **BUSINESS /LABOR**

**Are You a Collaborative Leader?** by Herminia Ibarra & Morten Hansen in *Harvard Business Review*, July-August 2011. 7p.

Social media and technologies have put connectivity on steroids and made collaboration more integral to business than ever. But without the right leadership, collaboration can go astray. Employees who try to collaborate on everything may wind up stuck in endless meetings, struggling to reach agreement. On the other side of the coin, executives who came of age during the heyday of "command and control" management can have trouble adjusting their style to fit the new realities.

**Shattering the Glass Ceiling: Advancing the Role of Women in Leadership, Diplomacy, and Government Address** by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Esther Brimmer, at the University of Nevada, September 1, 2011.

**Advancing the Lives of Young Women through Mentorship** *White House blog*, August 12, 2011.

**Addressing Long-Term Unemployment after the Great Recession: The Crucial Role of Workforce Training** Report by the Joint Economic Chairman's staff, U.S. Congress, August 2011. 14p.

**Potential Causes and Implications of the Rise in Long-Term Unemployment** Economic brief, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, September 2011. 5p.

**Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 2010** *Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept of Labor*, August 2011. Note: 335p.

**How to Invest in U.S. Employment** Interview with Gary Burtless, senior fellow, Brookings. *CFR*, September 2, 2011.

**Labor Market Not So Anomalous After All** by Murat Tasci & Mary Zenker. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, *Economic Trends*, August 9, 2011.

**National Compensation Survey: Health and Retirement Plan Provisions in Private Industry in the United States, 2010** *Bureau of Labor Statistics*, August 2011. Note: 167p.

**Education, Demand, and Unemployment in Metropolitan America** by Jonathan Rothwell & Alan Berube. Brookings, September 2011. 21p.

**The State of Working New York: The Unemployment Crisis Two Years into Recovery** *Fiscal Policy Institute*, August 31, 2011. 36p.

**Evaluating the Role of Labor Market Mismatch in Rising Unemployment** by Gadi Barlevy. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, *Economic Perspectives*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2011. 15p.

## **SOCIETY**

**Gosh, Could ObamaCare Be Working?** by Jonathan Cohn in *The New Republic*, September 14, 2011.

The numbers are striking – and seem to suggest that the *Affordable Care Act* is already helping large numbers of people. **The Report** Note: 95p.

**Can the Middle Class be Saved?** by Don Peck in *The Atlantic*, September.

In political speeches and in the media, the future of the middle class is often used as a stand-in for the future of America. Yet of course the two are not identical. The size of the middle class has waxed and waned throughout U.S. history, as has income inequality. The post-war decades of the 20th century were unusually hospitable to the American middle class—the result of strong growth, rapid gains in education, progressive tax policy, limited free agency at work, a limited pool of competing workers overseas, and other supportive factors. Such serendipity is anomalous in American history, and unlikely to be repeated.

**Learning Curve: American Culture and the Muslim World** by Peter Skerry in *World Affairs*, July/August, 2011. 10p.

As Americans struggle to confront economic and fiscal dilemmas at home, we are also reexamining our role as the lone global superpower. As we do so, one of our most elusive challenges is coming to terms with the cultural dimension of our engagement with the Muslim world. This is in part because cultural forces are downplayed or ignored by our intellectual and foreign policy elites. This neglect is regrettable, for while there are aspects of American culture that Muslims find problematic, or even repellant, there are others that they find—or might find, if made aware—appealing, even admirable.

**Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2010** *Census Bureau*, September 2011. 95p.

**Is Poverty a Death Sentence?** Hearing before a subcommittee of the *U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions*, September 13, 2011 (health implications of poverty).

**Suicide Prevention Resource Center Builds National Capacity** *White House blog*, September 1, 2011.

**Marital Events of Americans: 2009** *Census Bureau*, August 2011. 28p.

**Building the Ladder of Opportunity: What's Working to Make the American Dream a Reality for Middle Class Families** Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions*, July 26, 2011.

**A Child's Day: 2009** *Census Bureau*, August 11, 2011 (incl. tables).

## **Interfaith Relations**

**Reception Marking Eid ul-Fitr** Remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, September 7, 2011. **Photograph**

**Remarks to the American Leadership Initiative for Muslims** Remarks by Hannah Rosenthal, Special Representative to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, *U.S. Dept of State*, September 2, 2011.

## **Population and Minorities**

**America Reaches its Demographic Tipping Point** by William H. Frey. *Brookings*, August 26, 2011 (the geography of recent racial/ethnic change in the United States population).

**Hispanic College Enrollment Spikes, Narrowing Gaps with Other Groups** *Pew Hispanic Center*, August 25, 2011. 30p.

**Muslim Americans: No Signs of Growth in Alienation or Support for Extremism** *Pew Research*, August 2011. Note: 136p. **Summary**

## **Justice and Legal Issues:**

**Stanford University and the FINRA Foundation launch fraud prevention research center** News release, *Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Inc. (FINRA)*, August 10, 2011. See also: **Research Center on the Prevention of Financial Fraud**

**Shadowy Figures: Tracking Illicit Financial Transactions in the Murky World of Digital Currencies, Peer-to-Peer Networks, and Mobile Device Payments** by John Villaseñor et al. *James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy*, August 29, 2011. 24p.

**Connecting International Organized Crime Research to Policy and Practice: The Strategic Context in the U.S. and the U.K.** – Summary of working group held November 2010; *National Institute of Justice, U.S. Dept of Justice*, March 22'11.

## **Health**

**National Drug Threat Assessment 2011** *National Drug Intelligence Center, U.S. Dept of Justice*, September 2011. 72p. **News Release** September 7, 2011.

**Mental Illness Surveillance among Adults in the United States** *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services*, September 2, 2011. 32p.

**New National Report Shows Many Differences in the Types and Levels of Substance Abuse and Mental Illness Problems Experienced among the States** News release, *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services*, July 21, 2011. **Report** Note: 318p.

**Health Care Industry Consolidation** Hearing, *subcommittee of U.S. House Committee on Ways & Means*, September 9'11.

**Improving America's Hospitals: The Joint Commission's Annual Report on Quality and Safety 2011** *The Joint Commission*, September 2011. **News Release**

## **International Drug Trafficking**

**Presidential Determination for Major Drug Producing and Transit Countries** *U.S. Dept of State*, September 15, 2011.

**Presidential Memorandum: Major Illicit Drug Transit** *White House*, September 15, 2011.

## EDUCATION

**What College Can Mean to the Other America** by Mike Rose in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 11, 2011.

A certificate or degree alone will not automatically lift the disadvantaged out of hard times - there is a bit of magic-bullet thinking in some college initiatives - but getting a decent basic education could make a significant difference to many.

**The Classroom of the Future** by Jeanie Cheaney in *The World Today*, September 12, 2011.

Cheney opines that children should not go near a computer until they are at least 12 and have learned to read at grade level. Only until then will they have the necessary foundation to get real educational benefit from technology. Otherwise, the glitzy programs and games are a costly distraction. She also cautions that more money for technology means less for teachers, sports, music, and art.

**Ideas in the Ascendant** by John Swallow in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 1, 2011. 4p.

There's a need for information evaluation in the Internet age, and how to develop competent argumentative and judgment skills, focusing on the validity of information posted to the online encyclopedia Wikipedia and how thoughts are shaped through daily constructions of ideas.

**7 Things You Should Know About Gamification** on *Educause.com*. 7p.

The paper describes how the application of game elements in non-gaming situations can lead to more effective learning and its use in motivating and influencing behavior. Although gamification can be deceptively difficult to employ effectively, it has the potential to help build connections among members of the academic community, drawing in shy students, supporting collaboration, and engendering interest in course content that students might not have otherwise explored.

**Measuring Faculty Productivity: Let's Get It Right** by Michael F. Middaugh in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, August 28, 2011. 4p.

Faculty do a great deal more than teach, and faculty productivity embraces a great deal more than credit-hours taught.

**Education Reform and U.S. Competitiveness** Views of four experts. *CFR*, September 12, 2011.

Many experts agree that the United States needs to implement education reforms, especially in math and sciences, to retain U.S. competitiveness in the world. But there is disagreement on how to proceed. In this roundup, four experts offer a range of reform options, with a focus on different ways to improve the performance of teachers in kindergarten through twelfth grade.

**Building Blocks of Success** by Stephen J. Laster in *Educause Review*, May/June 2011. 7p.

Six building blocks of success in higher education information technology (IT) leadership, and the challenges for IT leaders in higher education.

**Some educational resources which may be of interest:**

**The Impact of Globalization and the Future of the University** by John J. DeGioia in *Educause Review*, May/June.

**White House to Launch "Digital Promise" Initiative** White House, September 16, 2011. "Digital Promise will work with leading researchers, entrepreneurs, and schools to identify and spur breakthrough learning technologies that deliver the best results for students, parents, and teachers." **For more information**

**Education Reforms: Ensuring the Education System is Accountable to Parents and Communities** Hearing before a subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce, September 21, 2011.

**Education Reforms: Examining the Federal Role in Public School Accountability** Hearing before the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce, September 14, 2011.

**Repairing and Modernizing America's Schools** Fact Sheet. *White House*, September 13, 2011.

**STEM in Action** Hearing before the U.S. House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, September 13, 2011 (STEM: science, mathematics, engineering and technological education).

**Student Reports of Bullying and Cyber-Bullying: Results from the 2009 School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey** *National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Dept of Education*, August 2011. 52p.

**Composition 1.01: How Email Can Change the Way Professors Teach** by James Somers in *The Atlantic*, July 27'11. 5p.

## **MEDIA, INTERNET & SOCIAL NETWORKING**

**Social Media and Disasters: Current Uses, Future Options, and Policy Considerations** by Bruce Lindsay. CRS, September 6, 2011. 13p.

Social media sites rank as the 4<sup>th</sup> most popular source to access emergency information. They have been used by individuals and communities to warn others of unsafe areas or situations, inform friends and family that someone is safe, and raise funds for disaster relief. The report summarizes how social media have been used by emergency management officials and agencies. It also examines the potential benefits, as well as the implications, of using social media in the context of emergencies and disasters.

**Interview with Dept. of State's Darren Krape: Twitter, It Does Matter** by Stephen Breyer in *WashingtonExec*, August 17, 2011.

"Social media is important and oftentimes like the frontlines," so says Darren Krape, Senior New Media Specialist at the **Department of State** and **personal blogger**.

**How Google Dominates Us** by James Gleick in the *New York Review of Books*, August 18, 2011.

Google is where we go for answers. People used to go elsewhere or, more likely, stagger along not knowing. Nowadays you can't have a long dinner-table argument about who won the Oscar for that Neil Simon movie where she plays an actress who doesn't win an Oscar; at any moment someone will pull out a pocket device and Google it. If you need the art-history meaning of "picturesque," you could find it in *The Book of Answers*, compiled two decades ago by the New York Public Library's reference desk, but you won't. Part of Google's mission is to make the books of answers redundant (and the reference librarians, too). "A hamadryad is a wood-nymph, also a poisonous snake in India, and an Abyssinian baboon," says the narrator of John Banville's 2009 novel, *The Infinities*. "It takes a god to know a thing like that." Not anymore.

**Leading an IT Organization Out of Control** by Gregory A. Jackson in *Educause*, July/August.

The era of control is ending for campus IT organizations. This means that IT leaders need to rethink some known management approaches and methods. Specifically, they need to learn to use these methods in radically different ways.

**Technology Will Take on a Life of Its Own** by Ayesha Khanna & Parag Khanna in *Foreign Policy*, Sept/Oct 2011.

It was the double date we had looked forward to more than any other. Just before sunset on a hot August day in Los Angeles, we sat in a nearly empty hotel restaurant awaiting the arrival of one of the most influential husband-and-wife intellectual teams in history: Alvin and Heidi Toffler. They may be octogenarians now, but pick up a copy of the Tofflers' most famous books - *Future Shock* (1970) and *The Third Wave* (1980) - and you will quickly wonder why anyone bothers to write the redundant meta social and political commentaries that drown us today. These books, written when we were children, contain such stunning and prescient insights, encapsulated in elegant yet racing prose, which they ought to be essential reading four decades onward. Indeed, you couldn't be blamed for thinking they had just been published this year.

**Going Pro** by Andrew Damstedt by *American Journalism Review*, Spring 2011. 2p.

More newspapers are turning to student journalism because of budgetary constraints that have led to reductions in staff. The author, an *American Journalism Review* editorial assistant, discusses the use of student-produced journalism by major media outlets, and new innovations in journalism.

**Print vs. Online - The Ways in Which Old-Fashioned Newspapers Still Trump Online Newspapers** by Jack Shafer on August 24, 2011.

Shafer says: "A little over five years ago, I announced that I was canceling my subscription to the New York Times. My cancellation wasn't in protest of Times coverage of the Middle East, ethnic minorities, religion, sex, or any of the other thousand hot-button issues that cause readers to kill their subscriptions. I was getting rid of my newsprint New York Times because the dandy redesign of NYTimes.com had made it a superior vessel for conveying the news."

**The Power of Social Media in Developing Nations: New Tools for Closing the Global Digital Divide and Beyond** by Amir Hatem Ali. in *Harvard Human Rights Journal*, Summer 2011, 35p.

Ali examines the role of social media on the Internet in addressing the global digital divide, focusing on its capacity to empower individuals in developing nations and the implications of human rights.

**Shaping the Future of the Newspaper** – *A World Association of Newspapers Project* / **Editor's Blog**

**Medium Matters: Newsreaders' Recall and Engagement with Online and Print Newspapers** Paper by Arthur D. Santana et al. August 10, 2011. 30p.

**Press Widely Criticized, but Trusted More Than Other Information Sources: Views of the News Media, 1985-2011**  
Pew Research Center, September 22, 2011. 37p. [Overview](#)

**Cloud Computing** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Science, Space and Technology*, September 21, 2011.

**The Power of Google: Serving Customers or Threatening Competition?** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary*, September 21, 2011.

**Illegal Internet Streaming of Copyrighted Content: Legislation in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress** CRS, August 29, 2011.

**65% of Online Adults Use Social Networking Sites** Pew Internet & American Life Project, August 26, 2011. 14p.

**The Benefits of Transitioning to a Nationwide Wireless Broadband Network for Public Safety** White House, June 2011. 16p. [Fact sheet](#)

**28% of American Adults Use Mobile and Social Location-Based Services** Pew Internet & American Life Project, September 6, 2011. 13p.

**Cybercrime: Updating the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act to Protect Cyberspace and Combat Emerging Threats**  
Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary*, September 7, 2011.

## **The ARTS / CULTURE**

**The War for Catch-22** by Tracy Daugherty in *Vanity Fair*, August 2011.

The tragicomic 1961 novel that sprang from Joseph Heller's experience as a W.W. II bombardier mystified and offended many of the publishing professionals who saw it first. But thanks to a fledgling agent, Candida Donadio, and a young editor, Robert Gottlieb, it would eventually be recognized as one of the greatest anti-war books ever written. In an adaptation from his Heller biography, Tracy Daugherty recalls the tortured eight-year genesis of *Catch-22* and its ultimate triumph.

**The Best Photographer You've Never Heard of: Exposing Vivian Maier** by Alex Kotlowitz in *Mother Jones*, May/June'11.

Maloof discusses the life and work of photographer Vivian Maier, and his 2007 discovery of some of her photographic negatives. Maier, whose photographs depict scenes of ordinary people living in large cities, worked as a nanny and rarely shared her photos with anyone during her lifetime. Following research into Maier's life, he has set out to publicize the photo collection and his subsequent purchase of over 100,000 additional negatives.

**Future of Libraries** by Barbara Mantel in *CQ Researcher*, July 29, 2011. 52p.

The author, a freelance writer in New York City, examines the myriad challenges facing libraries and their future, such as: Should the physical library shrink as books, journals and other materials increasingly become available in digital form? What role will libraries play if e-books come to dominate the reading experience? and Should public libraries be privatized in an effort to save money?

**Princeton vs. Dartmouth: College Football Then and Now** in *Smithsonian*, September 16, 2011.



September brings the start of another school year, and for most major American universities, that means another season of college football. Since the **first intercollegiate game in 1869**, the sport has been an ever-increasing source of revenue for American schools, and despite scandal and controversy, remains one of the nation's most passionate and popular sporting traditions. In commemoration of this year's kickoff, it's time to examine one of the oldest football-related artifacts in the [museum's collections](#).

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